

Message to Benefit Recipients

The Benefit Choice Period will be held **May 1 through June 1, 2015**, for all benefit recipients **not** enrolled in the Medicare Advantage TRAIL Program. **Benefit Choice elections will be effective July 1, 2015.**

Benefit recipients or dependent beneficiaries who have never been enrolled in TRIP may enroll during the Benefit Choice Period.

All Benefit Choice changes should be made on the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) Benefit Choice form. Benefit recipients should complete the form **only** if changes are being made. Dependent beneficiaries must be enrolled in the same plan as the benefit recipient. If you are already enrolled in TRIP and wish to make a change in coverage, please call TRS for a new Benefit Choice form at (800) 877-7896 or visit the TRS website at trs.illinois.gov. The Benefit Choice form will only be sent upon request. If you are enrolling yourself or an eligible dependent for the first time during the Benefit Choice Period, please contact TRS for a TRIP enrollment application.

During the Benefit Choice Period, benefit recipients may:

- Change health plans.
- Add dependent coverage if never previously enrolled (adding dependent coverage requires documentation).

Attention Annuitants and Survivors with Medicare Parts A and B: Members who are enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B prior to October 1, 2015, will be required to elect coverage under the TRIP Medicare Advantage TRAIL Program or elect to opt out of all TRIP coverage. Refer to page 2 for more information regarding the Medicare Advantage TRAIL Program.

Coverage and Monthly Premiums

Benefit recipients who enroll in the Teachers' Retirement Insurance Program (TRIP) receive health, prescription and behavioral health coverage. Dependent beneficiaries can be enrolled in the program at an additional cost and will have the same health plan as the benefit recipient. The monthly premium is based on the type of coverage selected and the permanent residence on file with TRS.

Type of Participant	Type of Plan	Not Medicare Primary	Not Medicare Primary	Not Medicare Primary	Medicare Primary*
		Under Age 26	Age 26-64	Age 65 and Above	All Ages
Benefit Recipient	Managed Care Plan	\$72.05	\$223.81	\$304.93	\$88.45
	TCHP	\$186.99	\$527.77	\$793.75	\$217.27
	TCHP when managed care is not available in your county	\$93.49	\$263.90	\$396.88	\$108.64
Dependent Beneficiary	Managed Care Plan	\$288.31	\$895.22	\$1,219.69	\$306.41 **
	TCHP	\$373.98	\$1,055.55	\$1,587.48	\$434.55
	TCHP when managed care is not available in your county	\$373.98	\$1,055.55	\$1,587.48	\$325.91 **

* You must enroll in both Medicare Parts A and B to qualify for the lower premiums. Send a copy of your Medicare card to TRS. If you or your dependent is actively working and eligible for Medicare, or you have additional questions about this requirement, contact the CMS Group Insurance Division, Medicare Coordination of Benefits (COB) Unit.

** Medicare Primary Dependent Beneficiaries enrolled in a managed care plan, or in TCHP when no managed care plan is available, receive a premium subsidy.

What You Should Know for Plan Year 2016

It is each member's responsibility to know their plan benefits in order to make an informed decision regarding coverage elections. Members should carefully review all the information in this flyer to be aware of the benefit changes for the upcoming plan year. **The Benefit Choice Period will be May 1 through June 1, 2015.** All elections will be effective July 1, 2015.

- **Medicare Advantage 'TRAIL' Program:** Effective February 1, 2014, the State began a new Medicare Advantage Program, referred to as the 'TRAIL' (Total Retiree Advantage Illinois) for annuitants and survivors enrolled in both Medicare Parts A and B.

Each fall, annuitants and survivors who meet the criteria for enrollment in the Medicare Advantage 'TRAIL' Program will be notified of the TRAIL Enrollment Period by the Department of Central Management Services. **These members will be required to choose a Medicare Advantage plan or opt out of all TRIP coverage (which includes health, behavioral health and prescription coverage) and will no longer be able to make changes during subsequent Benefit Choice Periods.**

For more information regarding the Medicare Advantage 'TRAIL' Program, including eligibility criteria, go to www.cms.illinois.gov/thetrail.

- **Federal Healthcare Reform:** As a result of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), with the exception of the Teachers' Choice Health Plan (TCHP), prescription copayments paid by members will apply toward the out-of-pocket maximum, and once the maximum has been met, medical, behavioral health and prescription drug charges will be covered at 100 percent for the remainder of the plan year. The out-of-pocket maximum amount for each type of health plan varies and is outlined on page 7 of the Benefit Choice Options book.
- **Primary Care Physician (PCP) Leaves the Network:** Effective July 1, 2015, when an HMO member's primary care physician (PCP) leaves the plan's network, the member will only be allowed to change health plans if the network experienced a significant change in the number of medical providers offered, as determined by CMS.
- **Claim Appeal Process:** Effective July 1, 2015, for medical appeals under the self-insured plans (which include the Teachers' Choice Health Plan, Coventry OAP, and HealthLink OAP), decisions made by an independent external reviewer will be final and binding on all parties. The previous final level, the CMS Appeal Committee, will no longer be available.
- **Ongoing Procurements:** Currently, contract negotiations are ongoing for the following:
 - Pharmacy benefits for Teachers' Choice Health Plan, Coventry OAP and HealthLink OAPOnce the contract has been finalized, the awarded vendor will be posted on the Benefits website.
- **Open Access Plan (OAP) Change**
 - Combined OAP Tier I and Tier II out-of-pocket maximum (individual) increased to \$6,600
 - Combined OAP Tier I and Tier II out-of-pocket maximum (family) increased to \$13,200

Federally Required Notices

Notice of Creditable Coverage

Prescription Drug Information for TRIP Medicare Eligible Plan Participants

This Notice confirms that the Teachers' Retirement Insurance Program has determined that the prescription drug coverage it provides is creditable. This means that your existing prescription coverage is on average as good as or better than the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage (Medicare Part D). You can keep your existing group prescription coverage and choose not to enroll in a Medicare Part D plan. Unless you qualify for low-income/extra-help assistance, you should not enroll in a Medicare Part D plan.

With this Notice of Creditable Coverage, you will not be penalized if you later decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan. However, you must remember that if you drop your entire group coverage through TRIP and experience a continuous period of 63 days or longer without creditable coverage, you may be penalized if you enroll in a Medicare Part D plan later. If you choose to drop your TRIP coverage, the Medicare Special Enrollment Period for enrollment into a Medicare Part D plan is two months after the loss of creditable coverage.

If you keep your existing group coverage, it is not necessary to join a Medicare prescription drug plan this year. Plan participants who decide to enroll into a Medicare prescription drug plan; however, may need a personalized Notice of Creditable Coverage in order to enroll into a prescription plan without a financial penalty. Participants who need a personalized Notice may contact the State of Illinois Medicare Coordination of Benefits Unit at (800) 442-1300 or (217) 782-7007.

Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) and Uniform Glossary

Under the Affordable Care Act, health insurance issuers and group health plans are required to provide you with an easy-to-understand summary about a health plan's benefits and coverage. The regulation is designed to help you better understand and evaluate your health insurance choices.

The forms include a short, plain language Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) and a uniform glossary of terms commonly used in health insurance coverage, such as "deductible" and "copayment."

All insurance companies and group health plans must use the same standard SBC form to help you compare health plans. The SBC form also includes details, called "coverage examples," which are comparison tools that allow you to see what the plan would generally cover in two common medical situations. You have the right to receive the SBC when shopping for, or enrolling in, coverage or if you request a copy from your issuer or group health plan. You may also request a copy of the glossary of terms from your health insurance company or group health plan. All TRIP health plan SBC's are available on the Benefits website.

Notice of Privacy Practices


The Notice of Privacy Practices has been updated on the Benefits website effective April 1, 2013. You have a right to obtain a paper copy of this Notice, even if you originally obtained the Notice electronically. We are required to abide with terms of the Notice currently in effect; however, we may change this Notice. If we materially change this Notice, we will post the revised Notice on our website at www.benefitschoice.il.gov.

Map of Health Plans by Illinois County


July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Refer to the code key below for the health plan code for each plan by county.


BlueAdvantage HMO CI
 Coventry HMO AS
 Coventry OAP CH
 Health Alliance HMO . . . AH
 HealthLink OAP CF
 HMO Illinois BY
 Teachers' Choice Health Plan (TCHP) D3

 AH, AS, BY, CF, CH, CI, D3

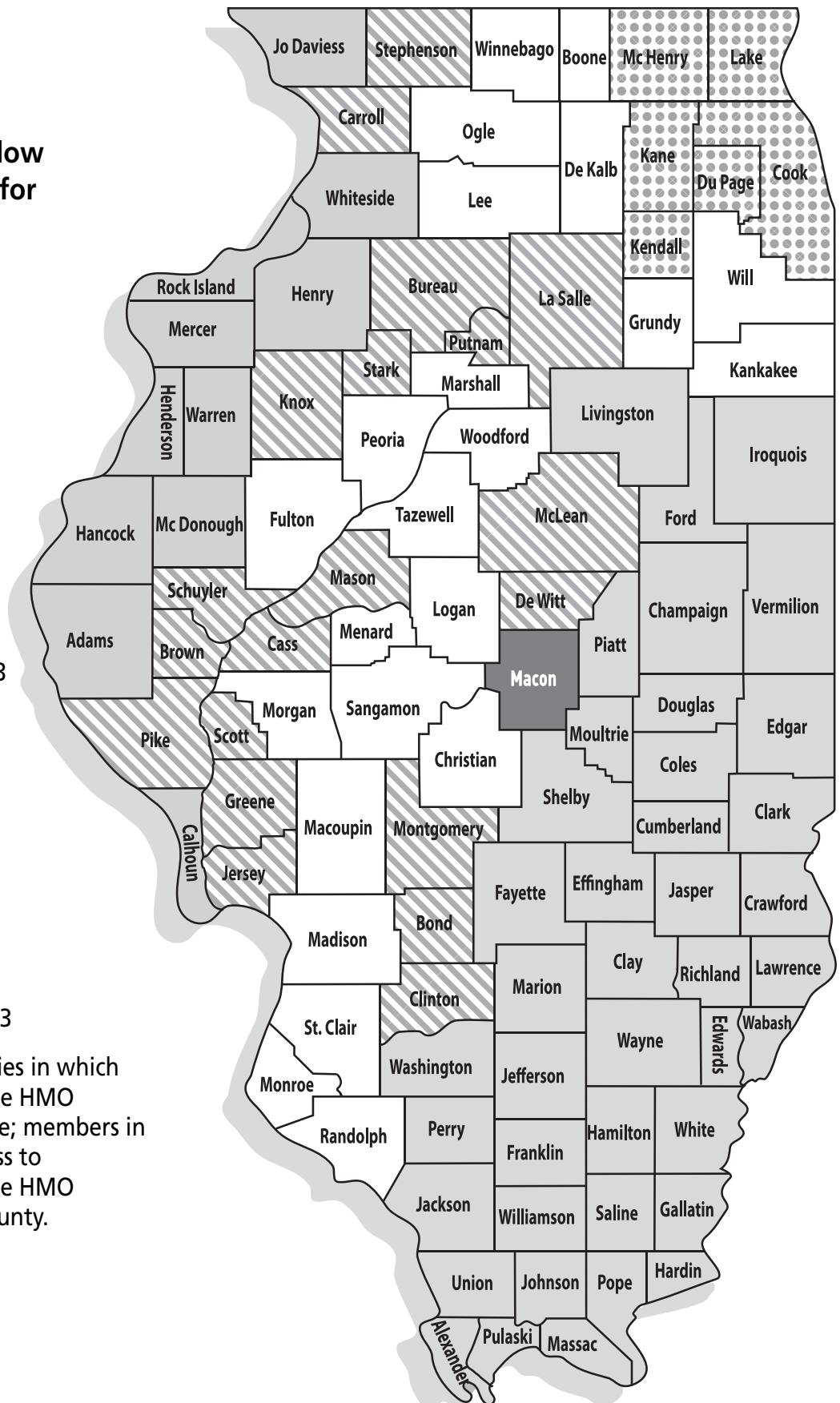
 BY, CF, CH, CI, D3

 AH, AS, CF, CH, D3

 AH, AS, CF, CH, CI, D3

 AH, AS, BY, CF, CH, CI, D3

Striped areas represent counties in which HMO Illinois or BlueAdvantage HMO do not have provider coverage; members in these counties may have access to HMO Illinois or BlueAdvantage HMO providers in a neighboring county.



HMO Benefits

Plan participants must select a primary care physician (PCP) from a network of participating providers. The PCP directs healthcare services and must make referrals for specialists and hospitalizations. When care and services are coordinated through the PCP, the plan participant pays only a copayment. No annual plan deductibles apply. The HMO coverage

described below represents the minimum level of coverage an HMO is required to provide. Benefits are outlined in each plan's summary plan document (SPD). It is the plan participant's responsibility to know and follow the specific requirements of the HMO plan selected. Contact the plan for a copy of the SPD.

HMO Plan Design	
Plan year maximum benefit	Unlimited
Lifetime maximum benefit	Unlimited
Hospital Services	
Inpatient hospitalization	100% after \$250 copayment per admission
Alcohol and substance abuse	100% after \$250 copayment per admission
Psychiatric admission	100% after \$250 copayment per admission
Outpatient surgery	100% after \$150 copayment
Diagnostic lab and x-ray	100%
Emergency room hospital services	100% after \$200 copayment per visit
Professional and Other Services (Copayment not required for preventive services)	
Physician Office visit	100% after \$20 copayment per visit
Preventive Services, including immunizations	100%
Specialist Office visit	100% after \$20 copayment per visit
Well Baby Care (first year of life)	100%
Outpatient Psychiatric and Substance Abuse	100% after \$20 copayment per visit
Prescription drugs (30-day supply) (formulary is subject to change during plan year)	\$10 copayment for generic \$20 copayment for preferred brand \$40 copayment for nonpreferred brand
Durable Medical Equipment	80%
Home Health Care	100% after \$15 copayment per visit

Some HMOs may have benefit limitations based on a calendar year.

Open Access Plan (OAP) Benefits

The benefits described below represent the minimum level of coverage available in an OAP. Benefits are outlined in the plan's summary plan document (SPD). It is the member's

responsibility to know and follow the specific requirements of the OAP plan. Contact the plan for a copy of the SPD.

Benefit	Tier I 100% Benefit	Tier II 80% Benefit	Tier III (Out-of-Network) 60% Benefit
Plan Year Maximum Benefit	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Lifetime Maximum Benefit	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Annual Out-of-Pocket Max Per Individual Enrollee Per Family	\$6,600 (includes eligible charges from Tier I and Tier II combined) \$13,200 (includes eligible charges from Tier I and Tier II combined)		Not Applicable
Annual Plan Deductible (must be satisfied for all services)	\$0	\$300 per enrollee*	\$400 per enrollee*
Hospital Services			
Inpatient	100% after \$250 copayment per admission	80% of network charges after \$300 copayment per admission	60% of allowable charges after \$400 copayment per admission
Inpatient Psychiatric	100% after \$250 copayment per admission	80% of network charges after \$300 copayment per admission	60% of allowable charges after \$400 copayment per admission
Inpatient Alcohol and Substance Abuse	100% after \$250 copayment per admission	80% of network charges after \$300 copayment per admission	60% of allowable charges after \$400 copayment per admission
Emergency Room	100% after \$200 copayment per visit	100% after \$200 copayment per visit	100% after \$200 copayment per visit
Outpatient Surgery	100% after \$150 copayment per visit	80% of network charges after \$150 copayment	60% of allowable charges after \$150 copayment
Diagnostic Lab and X-ray	100%	80% of network charges	60% of allowable charges
Physician and Other Professional Services (Copayment not required for preventive services)			
Physician Office Visits	100% after \$20 copayment	80% of network charges	60% of allowable charges
Specialist Office Visits	100% after \$20 copayment	80% of network charges	60% of allowable charges
Preventive Services, including immunizations	100%	100%	Covered under Tier I and Tier II only
Well Baby Care (first year of life)	100%	100%	Covered under Tier I and Tier II only
Outpatient Psychiatric and Substance Abuse	100% after \$20 copayment	80% of network charges	60% of allowable charges
Other Services			
Prescription Drugs (30-day supply)			
	Generic \$10	Preferred Brand \$20	Nonpreferred Brand \$40
Durable Medical Equipment	80% of network charges	80% of network charges	60% of allowable charges
Skilled Nursing Facility	100%	80% of network charges	Covered under Tier I and Tier II only
Transplant Coverage	100%	80% of network charges	Covered under Tier I and Tier II only
Home Health Care	100% after \$15 copayment	80% of network charges	Covered under Tier I and Tier II only

* An annual plan deductible must be met before Tier II and Tier III plan benefits apply. Benefit limits are measured on a plan year basis.

The Teachers' Choice Health Plan (TCHP)

Plan Year Maximums and Deductibles

Plan Year Maximum	Unlimited
Lifetime Maximum	Unlimited
Plan Year Deductible	\$500 per participant
Additional Deductibles*	Each emergency room visit \$400
* These are in addition to the plan year deductible.	TCHP hospital admission \$200
	Non-TCHP hospital admission \$400
	Transplant deductible \$200

Out-of-Pocket Maximum Limits

In-Network Individual \$1,200	In-Network Family \$2,750	Out-of-Network Individual \$4,400	Out-of-Network Family \$8,800
----------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------------

Hospital Services

TCHP Hospital Network	\$200 deductible per hospital admission. 80% after annual plan deductible.
Non-TCHP Hospitals	\$400 deductible per hospital admission. 60% of allowable charges after annual plan deductible.

Outpatient Services

Preventive Services, including immunizations	100% in-network, 60% of allowable charges out-of-network, after annual plan deductible.
Diagnostic Lab/X-ray	80% in-network, 60% of allowable charges out-of-network, after annual plan deductible.
Approved Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics	
Licensed Ambulatory Surgical Treatment Centers	

Professional and Other Services

Services included in the TCHP Network	80% after the annual plan deductible.
Services not included in the TCHP Network	60% of allowable charges after the annual plan deductible.
Chiropractic Services – medical necessity required (up to a maximum of 30 visits per plan year)	80% in-network, 60% of allowable charges after the annual plan deductible.

Transplant Services

Organ and Tissue Transplants	80% after \$200 transplant deductible, limited to network transplant facilities as determined by the medical plan administrator. Benefits are not available unless approved by the Notification Administrator, Cigna. To assure coverage, the transplant candidate must contact Cigna prior to beginning evaluation services.
------------------------------	--

Prescription Drugs

Copayments (30-day supply)		Minimum	Maximum
TCHP applies 20% coinsurance to the retail cost of the drug not to exceed the maximum copayment or be less than the minimum copayment	Generic	Greater of 20% or \$7	Lesser of 20% or \$50
	Preferred Brand	Greater of 20% or \$14	Lesser of 20% or \$100
	Nonpreferred Brand	Greater of 20% or \$28	Lesser of 20% or \$150

Benefit Choice is May 1 - June 1, 2015

**Benefit Choice Forms must be submitted to
TRS no later than Monday, June 1st!**

**If you do not want to change your coverage,
you do not need to submit a form.**

**It is each member's responsibility to know plan benefits and make an
informed decision regarding coverage elections. The complete Benefit
Choice Options booklet can be found on the Benefits website at
www.benefitchoice.il.gov. The TRIP Benefit Choice enrollment form can
be found on the TRS website at <http://trs.illinois.gov/members/trip.htm>**

**Go to the 'Latest News' section of the Benefits website at
www.benefitchoice.il.gov**

for group insurance updates throughout the plan year.